

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 TRSE-00 COME-00 OPIC-03

LAB-04 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SIL-01

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DRAFTED BY EB/CSB/OSB:ADBRAMANTE:NEA/ARP:FDICKMAN:CJR

APPROVED BY D - THE ACTING SECRETARY

EB - JAGREENWALD

NEA - SSOBER

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 051558

FOR SEC. SIMON FROM ACTING SECRETARY INGERSOLL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, TC, US

SUBJECT:U.S.-UAE ECONOMIC COOPERATION

1. THE BRIEFING PAPER PREPARED FOR YOU ON THE SUBJECT OF EXPANDED U.S.-UAE ECONOMIC COOPERATION HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION. I NOTE THAT IT DOES NOT ALTOGETHER REFLECT WHAT I UNDERSTAND TO BE YOUR DISCUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY ON THE EVENING BEFORE YOU LEFT NOR WITH THE CONTENTS OF TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY'S FEBRUARY 23 LETTER TO UAE OIL MINISTER OTAIBA WHICH WE HAD APPROVED. SPECIFICALLY, YOUR TALKING POINTS SUGGEST A MECHANISM IN WHICH
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TREASURY WOULD PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN WASHINGTON TO ENSURE

EXPEDITIOUS ACTION ON ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE UAE AND WOULD SERVE AS COORDINATING POINT FOR THE USG IN RESPONDING TO ANY UAE REQUEST ON ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS.

2. THE ARRANGEMENT AGREED UPON, AS STATED IN THE PARSKY LETTER, IS THAT REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIFFERENT USG AGENCIES, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, COMMERCE, AND TREASURY WILL WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER AND MEET PERIODICALLY TO CONSIDER UAE REQUESTS. THE LETTER ALSO SUGGESTS DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE UAE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND TREASURY AS WELL AS OTHER USG AGENCIES.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE UAE SHOULD BE AS INFORMAL AS POSSIBLE AND SHOULD NOT TAKE THE FORM OF A COMMISSION OR CONSULTATIVE GROUP. ALSO, WHILE THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT HAS A SPECIAL ROLE IN OUR JOINT COMMISSIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA, ISRAEL, AND EGYPT, WE BELIEVE THAT THE CHIEF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARRYING OUT U.S. PROGRAMS IN OTHER NEAR EAST COUNTRIES SHOULD REMAIN WITH THE APPROPRIATE USG AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR EACH OF THEM. IN THE CASE OF THE UAE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXERCISE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING USG PROGRAMS.

4. TO AVOID ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS, I BELIEVE YOUR SECOND AND THIRD TALKING POINTS IN YOUR BRIEFING MEMORANDUM SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

QTE. 2. TO ENSURE EXPEDITIOUS CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL MATTERS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, REPRESENTATIVES FROM DIFFERENT USG AGENCIES INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, TREASURY, AND COMMERCE WILL WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER AND MEET PERIODICALLY TO CONSIDER YOUR GOVERNMENT'S REQUESTS. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS SPECIAL MECHANISM SHOULD ENSURE THAT HELPFUL, CONSTRUCTIVE AND TIMELY RESPONSES ARE MADE TO SUCH REQUESTS.

3. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN ABU DHABI CAN BEST SERVE AS THE PRINCIPAL COMMUNICATIONS
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LINK BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. ON THE BASIS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S REPORTS, ALL INTERESTED USG AGENCIES WILL WORK TOGETHER IN DEVELOPING OUR GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUESTS. WE WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH YOUR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON THROUGH APPROPRIATE CHANNELS SHOULD YOU WISH TO USE THIS METHOD OF COMMUNICATIONS. UNQTE.

5. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR MAKING THESE POINTS CLEAR TO
UAE OFFICIALS WHEN MAKING YOUR PRESENTATION ON EXPANDED
U.S.-UAE ECONOMIC COOPERATION. I BELIEVE THIS KIND OF
COORDINATION BETWEEN U.S. AGENCIES IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR
SPECIAL EFFORTS TO SEEK NEW COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIPS
WITH THESE AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE NEAR EAST WHICH ARE
OF VITAL INTEREST TO OUR ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL OBJEC-
TIVES. INGERSOLL

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